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RED ARMY REACHES AS FAR AS ZIELENZIG IN DRIVE ON TO ODER

German Reserves Being Thrown In to Fight Advancing Zhukov's Forces

Domei

BERLIN, February 1.—Soviet forces have advanced as far as the Sternberg-Zielenzig area, frontline reports said today. North of the Warthe River other formations have advanced into the Kuestrin-Soldin area.

In Pommerania, Soviet reconnaissance formations which struck to the north were being fought by the Germans. Heavy fighting continued northwest of Kulm and at Elbing. Fifty-four Soviet tanks were knocked out in heavy fighting in East Prussia.

The Germans confirmed the Soviet report that Heilsberg was occupied.

In Silesia, stiff German opposition continued so that Marshal Konkv's attempts to widen his Oder bridgeheads came to naught. In the meantime, the Soviets continued to line up their First White Rusian Army for the battle of Berlin. This led to very heavy fighting in the Oder-Warthe bend and immediately north of the Warthe.

In the area west of Zullichau, Schwibus and Schwerin on the Warthe, the Germans held numerous bases against violent Soviet assaults. Marshal Zhukov's tank spearheads have in the meantime advanced into the Zielenzig area. German reserves are being thrown in to fight them. Zielenzig is 33.4 kilometers west of Meseritz and 41 kilometers east of Frankfurt on the Oder. Sternberg is 34 kilometers west of Schwiebus and 39.2 kilometers east of Frankfurt on the Oder.

Farther to the north the Soviets were also pushing to reach the Oder on a broad front and to approach Stettin. North of the Warthe River, Marshal Zhukov's forces have advanced as far as the Soldin-Kuestrin area, which is 72 kilometers east of Berlin on the Berlin-Marienburg-Koenigsberg railway line. Very lively German counterattacks were underway.

In the southern part of Pommerania, the Germans warded off numerous attacks and drove back Soviet reconnaissance forces. No names of localities are as yet available regarding this area. Likewise there are few details on hand of the battlefield on the lower Vistual. Fighting there, however, was believed to be heavy.

The Soviets had not given up their efforts to enter Koenigsberg completely. After a formation of the Third White Russian Army, which had advanced to Frische Haff, south of Koenigsberg, on the day before had been repelled and thus the Germans once more were in connection with Koenigsberg, the Soviets concentrated mainly on the northern section in the past 24 hours, although fighting was also continuing south of the town. The Soviet forces which had advanced north of the town reached Gross-Hideskrug west of the town and thus the Frische Haff at that corner.

Fierce Fighting Rages

Domei

BERLIN, February 1.—Fierce, grim fighting continued during the past 24 hours southwest of Budapest but no significant change was brought about to the situation. In the southern sector of the great Soviet offensive fierce fighting continued without respite for individual objectives in the upper Silesian industrial area. All along the front, from Rybnik to Glogau, Soviet troops, except those engaged in the upper Silesian coal basin, were closing in on the Oder River. At many points Soviet spearheads were trying to force crossings against stiffening German resistance. In the East Prussian battle area no significant change took place.

Meanwhile, in the center sector, Marshal Zhukov's forces continued to assault Posen and Soviet rifle divisions were gradually closing in on the line formed by the Obra River. Experts said that although the ultimate aim of Marshal Zhukov was a breakthrough to Berlin, this was a risky enterprise and that the Soviet command was aware of this riskiness. The development of battle during the past 24 hours shows this, they said.

Schneidemuehl remained in German hands after fierce fighting. Soviet vanguards bypassed the town and advanced into the area of Flatow and Deutsch Krone railway line. The Soviet thrust, however, was checked in this area. Experts said that it was doubtful whether a new thrust was planned in this sector because there was no operative objective. The thrust, they said, must have been made to support wholesale reconnaissance in a northwesterly direction. In the meantime, Soviet forces crossed the Netze River and wheeled to the west. These forces succeeded in fighting their way into the Neumark region beyond Landsberg.

The Soviet spearheads then advanced to the line tying Soldit and Kiestrin. The task of this group apparently was to protect the deep flank of the forces battling within the Oder and Warthe area. The situation in this sector was acknowledgedly critical, but the safety measures instituted by the Soviet command on the northern flank indicated that the Soviets were aware that large-scale German countermeasures were underway to defend the German capital.

Fighting in Courland

Domei

BERLIN, February 1.—Soviet forces of about 80 infantry divisions and numerous tank formations have been assaulting for days the German fortress of Courland, lying like an island behind the Soviet lines, but the German troops defending the main fighting line, running 180 kilometers from the Baltic south of Libau up to the Gulf of Riga have been standing fast, inflicting heavy losses on the Soviets.

The steadfast, determined defense of veteran German divisions frustrated the long prepared Soviet strategic plan to effect a breach through the German front toward Libau and Frauenburg.

With Soviet losses in men and tanks tremendously high, only local fighting occurred on the sixth day of the winter defense battle. The fighting was on a scale far below that of the preceding days. In the area southwest of Frauenburg, the Soviets made breakthrough attempts with tanks but these efforts were in vain. Violent fighting is still raging for the bridgehead formed by the Soviets in the Barta sector.

German efforts to improve the defense front and to reduce small breaches of local character were successful. Throughout the front the huge losses suffered by the Soviets were becoming noticeable. Experts said that although the fourth battle of Courland was still raging and the Soviets were making preparations for new breakthrough attempts in the focal points of fighting, the losses suffered by the Soviets in men and materials in that battle were so heavy that they will have a disadvantageous effect on coming battles.

Heads of U.S., Britain, Soviet Union Start Conference in Cairo

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 1.—The "Big Three" conference participated in by President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Marshal Josef Stalin opened its meeting in Cairo yesterday, according to a report from the Egyptian capital.

GERMANS, U.S. FIRST ARMY LOCKED IN FIERCE BATTLE

Stiff Defensive Fight Rages in Monschau-Viadon Area; Lull Continues in Lower Alsace

Domei

BERLIN, February 1.—The lull in the fighting continued in the Netherlands and lower Alsace yesterday. The center of the fighting on the Western Front is still in the sector between Monschau and Viadon, a front measuring about 60 kilometers in length.

In upper Alsace local fighting continued northeast of Colmar and north and west of Mulhouse. In the central section between Monschau and Viadon, the Germans had to fight a heavy defensive battle against Lieutenant General Alexander Hodges' U.S. First Army, which was supported by tanks.

Fighting again flared up for Rollenbroidh, Simmerath and Kaltenherberg as well as other points. Most of the few dents made by the Americans were sealed off. At Elsendorn and Kesternich on the Durthe River, the anti-Axis forces succeeded in making minor penetrations into German positions but they sustained heavy losses.

Although the fighting in upper Alsace has become heavier, it still bears a local character. De Gaullist formations succeeded in improving their positions at Arzenheim and Urschenheim but were repelled when they attacked at Elsenheim, northeast of Kolmar.

All enemy attacks also were thrown back north of Hornberg, west of Sausen and southwest of Urbeis in the battle zone between Than and Sonnheim. All attacks on Colmar and Mulhouse were unsuccessful.

SOVIET DRIVE MAY CAUSE RIFT IN ANTI-AXIS CAMP

Yorkshire Post Worried Lest Berlin Should Fall Before Big 3 Reach Accord

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—It would be "extremely inconvenient" if the Soviets were to reach Berlin before the "competencies" of the individual anti-Axis Powers are agreed upon, declares the Yorkshire Post in dealing with the situation created for the Anglo-Americans by the Soviet advance, according to a London report.

The British paper fears that each of the anti-Axis Powers will act on German territory without regard for the common goal and adds that one of the foremost tasks of the Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference will be the establishment of an organization to regulate the competencies in this respect.

Meanwhile, the leading Edinburgh paper, the Scotsman, declared that the facts that the Tito-Subasic agreement has a "totalitarian character" and that the Soviet Union is dealing with the Polish issue in her own way indicate that the Teheran Conference has altered the spheres of influence of the States. The paper asks for a firmer British foreign policy, mentioning the British promise to Poland to reestablish the Polish state, adding that European peace cannot have a sound structure on broken treaties.

Dealing with the three-Power meeting, Alistair Forbes, political reporter of the London Daily Mail, said that Washington was responsible for the fact that France was not invited to the conference. He added that neither Britain nor the Soviet Union was responsible for this particular piece of international tomfoolery.

The Daily Mail also carried today an exclusive story from its own Washington correspondent, saying that strong protests had been made by Britain and France to the American high command over the division of the American war effort between the European and Pacific fronts. This division reportedly has slowed down the war in Europe and is jeopardizing the conversion of French industries to war production to provide an arsenal for Eisenhower's armies on the Western Front.

The Daily Mail dispatch says that the crisis is centered chiefly on the American military authorities' decision to divide the available shipping between the European and Pacific fronts, giving easily the largest proportion of shipping space to supplying MacArthur's campaign. This crisis, the Daily Mail correspondent adds, was the real reason behind the recent visit to Washington made by Richard Law, British Minister of State attached to the Foreign Office. In his conversations with American maritime and military authorities, Law reportedly argued that emphasis should be transferred to the European Front to hasten Germany's downfall.

The dispatch says that the American military authorities adamantly maintained that their shipping was capable of taking the strain of two war fronts and the result was that the Pacific swallowed a vast number of ships on increasingly long supply routes.

The Daily Mail correspondent adds that Law pointed out that the Pacific campaign was ahead of schedule but that the knockout blow against Germany had been greatly delayed. Law believedly told the American military authorities that Britain viewed with alarm the allocation of American shipping to the Pacific at the expense of the Western Front. The dispatch added that an agreement on the reallocation of shipping had now been reached and that greater emphasis would be put on the Western Front.

This Daily Mail report caused "authoritative" British quarters to deny to Reuter's diplomatic correspondent the "report circulating in Washington that Law during his recent visit to the United States urged a reduction of shipping earmarked for the Pacific." These quarters said that Law's mission was entirely confined to the case of economic assistance to the "liberated" countries of Europe.

U.S. Struggling for National Existence, Says Truman Bitterly Assailing Pacifists

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 30.—Today America is again engaged in a desperate struggle for national existence, but it is hard to realize that during this gigantic struggle for survival Americans living in safety and comfort are actually asking why we fight, declared U.S. Vice-President Harry S. Truman, in an address delivered last night in Philadelphia, according to a Philadelphia report.

The world has been seriously ill for many years, but the disease has been checked. However, the period of convalescence may well be long and painful, cautioned Truman. In desperation a few nations which turned to political doctoring promised prompt and painless cures for all chronic ailments at the expense of unsuspecting neighbors. The first effect of this prescribed patent medicine seemed most agreeable to these nations, he said, adding that they experienced a feeling of a sort of grandeur, an intoxicating feeling of easy military victory. As the drug wore off and the inevitable reactions took place the disease spread so rapidly that the epidemic became critical, world-wide and almost beyond control.

"Fortunately," he continued this plague has been confined recently to shrinking zones of infection. Furthermore, after this major operation, despite all pessimistic predictions, civilization will survive and surely improve. However, the period of convalescence for the world may well be long and painful."

Continuing, Truman said: No ordinary doctor can adequately treat such a deadly disease. Today the world truly requires practical physicians who can administer to the mind and spirit as well as to the physical wants. We need righteous leaders, tolerant men who have the sympathetic understanding so essential in a world of Fascist intolerance.

Lauds Benjamin Franklin

It may be well to recall that Benjamin Franklin was the first internationalist born on American soil. He was the first to obtain international recognition of a truly illustrious America. Franklin early acquired deep appreciation for the lasting benefits which may be derived from friends across the sea.

At one of the darkest hours of American history the diplomat Franklin, despite his age, made a dangerous and difficult trip abroad. He finally induced France to extend lend-lease aid to the poor and ill-equipped colonists fighting for freedom against overwhelming odds.

This assistance ultimately tipped the scales of fortune in favor of democratic America. Today America is again engaged in a desperate struggle for national existence. Again the greatest danger before conclusive victory lies in disunity.

Hostile agents operating throughout the world know well that their only hope of averting a crushing defeat is to divide the forces of freedom. Unfortunately, certain unthinking people unconsciously play into the hands of disunity by stressing foreign disagreements, instead of concentrating on the one essential —that of winning the war.

Admits Huge Casualties

It is hard to realize that during this gigantic struggle for survival few Americans are actually asking why we fight. In the last three years our opponents have killed or wounded hundreds of thousands of Americans. And yet people living in safety and in relative comfort because of such sacrifices have the affrontery to ask 'What are we fighting for?'

As a veteran of the last war, I am positive that our armed forces on the battlefronts know very definitely why they fight. Fortunately, the overwhelming majority of the Americans also know why we fight—for the fundamental right to continue our way of life, in fact, for life itself. America must fight for freedom or lose it. It seems obvious that some people who question our fighting ideals are not really sincere. Some critics merely hope to embarrass the administration in the delicate task of conducting our foreign relations. Others still dream about our return to isolationism, even though the possibility of such an existence died with Pearl Harbor and was surely buried with the first robot bomb that crossed the English Channel.

Even more dangerous to our national morale and to the war effort are the enemy's sponsored works of dissension and defeatism. As an ardent advocate of the freedom of speech and of the press, I feel impelled to caution Americans and to appeal for the most careful use of self-restraint. Common sense requires moderation in the exercise of our individual rights. As long as hostilities last no loyal American should speak or act in any way which would give aid or comfort to the enemy. This should be a creed for all of us.

Honest differences of opinion will always exist among men and nations as long as humanity moves along the hard road to progress. However, in wartime unnecessary disagreements should be subordinated to interests of national and international units. Let us concentrate on the all-important task we have before us; to keep our deadly opponent in check which is the first step. It would be tragic to lose the war while fighting over details of a peace not yet achieved. First things must come first.

All Americans must realize that we must win the war decisively; otherwise everything is lost. Any appeasement or compromise before victory would be fatal. The world has become far too small for ruthless aggressors to live among freedom-loving nations. If American democracy is to survive, Germany and Japan must be defeated in battle, and thereby forced to respect the rights of other nations.

Stresses United America

On January 28, Truman, in a broadcast entitled "America Unite," emphasized:

"As long as we Americans stay united to preserve our democratic ideals we need fear nobody. Our mighty nation was built by faith and by hard work. Simple virtues will surely keep Americans hale and strong in years to come.

"Complicated problems of reconstruction and rehabilitation can be solved only by a united effort for the benefit of all. We were slow in learning that political isolationism had become impossible. Things like economic isolation are also impracticable. If America cannot detach herself from the outside world, our primary problem is to make our foreign relations and foreign trade as pleasant and profitable as possible for all concerned.

"Sound, lasting friendship between individuals or nations cannot be founded upon shortsighted thoughts. It has been well said that to hold friends we must be friends."

BONOMI REGIME HARASSED BY ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

Tells Anti-Axis It Cannot Bear Expenses Needed to Support Armed Forces in Italy

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—The Bonomi regime of Italy announced yesterday that it had recently informed the anti-Axis Governments of its inability to bear the expenses necessary to support the anti-Axis forces stationed in Italy, a Rome dispatch said today.

In its memorandum to the anti-Axis Governments, the Bonomi regime said that the present economic and monetary situation in the country made it impossible for it to bear the heavy economic burden it has been forced to bear by the armistice terms.

The regime requested that the anti-Axis governments hereafter give it dollar or pound currencies in amounts compatible with the amount of lira military notes issued by the anti-Axis forces, adding that the anti-Axis forces have expended 50,000,000,000 lira in military notes up to the present.

Revolutionary Storms Raging

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—While revolutionary storms are raging over Europe—civil war in Greece, riots in Belgium, the precarious situation in France, the critical state of Poland, and the bitter differences in Bonomi Italy—the political situation in Britain is daily growing worse, writes the News Review.

The situation in Europe today is all due to the revolutionary aims of the Communist elements, continues the journal, which adds that the Anglo-Americans were too occupied with their own selfish aims to try to clear up the mess. Never before has Prime Minister Churchill been faced with such a situation as that of today, it declares.

In the "liberated" towns and villages of Europe today are only weeping women, writes the Tribune, a British periodical. Poland, Greece, Belgium and all the other occupied countries have experienced nothing but misery since their so-called "liberation," and those responsible for such a condition are Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin, the Tribune points out.

UPPER HOUSE CONTINUES DELIBERATION ON BILLS

Katsuda Interpellates Government on Domestic Structure For Sure Victory

The House of Peers continued to sit in a general meeting of the Budget Committee on Friday morning. During the morning, too, three committee meetings on petitions, provincial railways and tax increase were in session. The afternoon was devoted to discussion on the overseas bank bill.

The House of Representatives sat in a plenary session at 1 p.m. the same day. The Government submitted to it a project of law concerning the wartime forest resources protection.

A bill concerning the revision of the criminal code, sponsored by Diet members, also was presented. Explanations were made by Kunitaro Koyama and Shigeru Iguchi on the latter bill, as a result of which it was turned over to a committee.

A few other bills, including a bill concerning the revision of wartime exceptions embodied in the Accounts Law, also were laid before the plenary session.

Eikichi Katsuda asked the Government as to various issues related to the construction of domestic structure for sure victory. During the morning two committee meetings, one of the forestry bank bill and the other the industrial equipment corporation bill, were in progress. In the afternoon, the budgetary deficit, mariners protection, pension, conscription and one other committee meetings were held in the House.

There is no intention on the part of the Government to adopt the system of compulsory savings, said Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata on Friday in the committee of the House of Peers studying the Government's tax increase plan.

This statement was made to Tatsuji Hashimoto, of the Kenkyukai, who asked whether the Government saw no need of compelling the people to save money.

Finance Minister Ishiwara's, reply was to the following effect:

"To a certain extent saving is made compulsory by law even today. Our main effort is concentrated on getting the people to save as much money as possible in the spirit of service to the State. In the main we will continue practicing this policy in the days to come.

"It is a fact that saving is made half compulsory in individual prefectures. There will be great difficulty in acting on the idea of making saving compulsory throughout the country.

"I should think that if there is a good deal to be said for the present method of increasing popular savings it is that there is no law to make savings compulsory in the country as a whole."

CONTINUE NUISANCE RAIDS

Two B-29 bombers based in the Mariana carried out a reconnaissance flight over the eastern part of Shikoku as well as in and around Osaka Bay at about 9 a.m. on Thursday after pasing over the southern part of Shikoku. The B-29's fled southward without dropping any bombs. At 7 p.m. the same day one B-29, which flew over the southern part of Shikoku and Osaka, appeared over the southern sector of Aichi Prefecture. The raider fled by way of the Enshu Sea after dropping some explosives. Another B-29 made a flight over Aichi, Nagano, and Shizuoka coming from the direction of Ise Bay at 11:50 a.m. No bombs were dropped by the enemy plane which fled after passing over Sagami Bay. The fifth raider penetrated the skies over the southern part of Shikoku shortly after 4:30 a.m. on Friday. The B-29 fled by way of the southern part of Ise Bay after dropping a few bombs in Osaka.

One B-29 bomber appeared over North Kankyo Province coming from the direction of Manchoukuo at 9:20 a.m. and passing over the Kanko and Heijo areas fled westward toward the sea by way of Kokaido Province without dropping any bombs, it was announced by the Chosen Army at noon on Friday.

U.S. Mine Sweepers Sunk

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—Two quick minesweepers, Hovey and Palmer, and one tank landing barge were attacked and sunk by the Japanese in the waters off the Philippine Islands, it was announced by the U.S. Navy Department today, according to a Washington dispatch.

Sweden to Represent Nippon's Interests in Turkey, Iran, Iraq

The Swedish Government has agreed to represent Japanese interests in Turkey, Iran, and Iraq. In this connection, the authorities of the Foreign Office here issued the following statement at 4 p.m. on Friday: "The Japanese Government, which has been negotiating with the Swedish Government about the representation of Japanese interests in Turkey, Iran, and Iraq, has received a formal reply from that Government accepting the proposal."

NIPPON FIGHTING SPIRIT IS STRESSED BY FORDE

Tells Americans Japanese Opposition in S.W. Pacific Is Still Formidable

Domei

LISBON, January 31.—Australian War Minister Francis Forde in a radio message to the Americans on January 30 stressed the gallant fighting spirit of the Japanese Forces in the southwestern Pacific and declared substantially as follows:

"The Australian army, with the largest force since the outbreak of the current war, has been fighting in New Guinea and other southwestern Pacific islands under the direction of General Douglas MacArthur. The Japanese Forces in these areas are excellently equipped and, moreover, they are ever afire with the spirit of smashing the enemy without the least hesitation to sacrifice themselves. Naturally, it is not altogether correct to say that the battles in these areas are mopping-up operations. On the islands which were left for the Australians to defend after the advance of the American forces to the Philippines, the resistance of the Japanese Forces is very severe and as a result Australia will have to reinforce its army to cope with the situation."

U.S. Ambition Bared

Domei

LISBON, January 31.—Artemus Gates, United States Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, who has returned to Pearl Harbor from a visit to the Pacific war theater including Lingayen Bay, told newspapermen on January 31 that "the United States must keep the Mariana Islands after the war is over and build a permanent base there, thereby making them the Pearl Harbor of the West Pacific," according to a dispatch from Pearl Harbor.

No doubt this was an open statement of the inordinate desire on the part of the United States to continue to possess the Mariana Islands after the war.

Turning to the war situation Gates intimated that the Japanese Air Force is expanding by leaps and bounds and that the consequence of this is that severe counterattacks by the Japanese Air Force will have to be anticipated.

Gates partly said:

"The American task forces will have to meet counterattacks by superior Japanese planes as they get nearer to the heart of the Japanese Empire. There is no knowing the sort of plane Japan will have in use against us as we approach. "But I am certain of one thing. We must be resigned to the fact that the American forces will have to engage in combat with Japanese planes far superior to any that has been known before as they get near to the Japanese mainland."

Urges Reich, Japan Occupation

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—The perpetual occupation of Germany and Japan to keep them from rearming was urged by Harry Hopkins, President Roosevelt's personal envoy, now touring Europe, according to a Rome report. Hopkins said that "there was no doubt that powerful elements in both Germany and Japan were already engaged in preparations for their next attempt to conquer us." He added that the world was not civilized enough to make worldwide disarmament practical.

Yenan Gets Supplies

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—The Communist Yenan Government has received Red Cross supplies for the first time, the deliveries made up of medical and military equipment and totaling 10 tons, the U.S. Air Transport Command in Kunming announced today, according to a Chungking report. It said that the deliveries were made with the approval of the Chungking Government.

11,200 YANK TROOPS KILLED OR WOUNDED IN LUZON WAR AREA

Nippon Tank Units Vigorously Attack Enemy Near San Mannel, I.H.Q. Reveals

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5:20 p.m., February 2

"The war situation on Luzon Island since last reported follows:

"1. The enemy forces, seven to eight divisions strong, that landed in the Lingayen Bay area are still attacking our positions in the mountainous sector east of the Pangasinan Plain with their main strength while about two divisions of their forces are gradually moving southward to the Manila Bay area. A part of these forces advanced to the area fronting the Clark sector as well as in the neighborhood of San Fernando during the latter part of January. Moreover, a part of the enemy forces on January 30 landed in the vicinity of Subic Bay.

"2. Our Forces in the area east of the Pangasinan Plain withdrew from the position extending from an area near San Fabian to the Cabaruan Hills at the end of January after inflicting tremendous damage upon the enemy and are now smashing the enemy attacks on the firing line extending from the vicinity of Damortis to the area near San Mannel through the area east of Rosario.

"A part of our tank units that have been engaging in fierce battles in counterattacking the enemy mechanized units which penetrated into the sector northeast of the Cabaruan Hills on and after January 16 launched a vigorous night attack on the enemy forces in the vicinity of San Mannel on January 27 and dealt heavy losses upon them.

"3. Of the losses inflicted on the enemy forces that landed in the Lingayen Bay area, the principal results which have become known up to the present follow:

Enemy soldiers killed or wounded ..... about 11,200
Weapons destroyed or captured:
Tanks 114
Various kinds of guns.... 71."

Tanker, Transports Sunk

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, February 2.—Contacting an enemy convoy in the waters west of Luzon Island before daybreak on January 30, a Japanese submarine sank one tanker and two transports.

Enemy Hit Hard

By M. MATSUZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT, January 31.—The enemy casualties along the Lingayen coast have mounted to over 7,000 since the enemy landings in that area and the Japanese Shock Units are still keeping up their furious assaults.

In order to defend the flanks, the enemy forces attempting to push southward toward Manila have thrown three divisions against the Japanese positions along the Lingayen coast. Against these enemy forces, the crack units of the Japanese Forces are hurling themselves in furious attacks day after day. Also at various places on the Manila plains, the Japanese Forces are dealing effective blows on the enemy.

East of Damortis area on January 27, several Japanese squads, led by Sergeant Yamamoto, stormed into the enemy munition dump and seized 50 rocket guns. Again in daytime of the same day Engineering Corps, commanded by Captain Shinichi Sato, killed off with land mines 20 of the 250 enemy soldiers that attacked the Japanese positions. The remainder of the enemy soldiers fled pellmel.

The Shock Unit under the command of Second Lieutenant Takahashi has time and again cut deep into the enemy lines and scored brilliant results. On the night of January 28, the Unit blasted the enemy food supply dumps east of Damortis, and also seized large quantities of food and ammunitions.

Fearstruck by the successive assaults of the Japanese Shock Units, the enemy soldiers beat a hasty retreat whenever brought face to face with the death-defying Japanese Units. Although the enemy tanks are making frenzied efforts to advance southward, they pitch the mechanized corps with numerous sentinels during the night and keep the tanks moving constantly into new positions.

CONFERENCE IN ATHENS IS REPORTED UNDERWAY

EAM Men Meet Greek Government; British White Paper Bares ELAS Atrocities

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, February 1.—The conference between the Greek Government and the EAM delegation is due to begin today, says a report from Athens.

Kenneth Matthews, BBC correspondent, reported in this connection that the following three issues will be taken up at the parley:

1. The future of the hostages in EAM hands and of the political prisoners in the Greek Government's hands.

2. The charges against those who had taken up arms against the Government, but had not committed any ordinary crimes.

3. The question of whether to appeal to the people by a plebiscite or by election to the constituent assemblies.

Matthews emphasized that Britain and the other anti-Axis Powers want to see Greece united and peaceful and that British influence will certainly be used to insure that one kind of intimidation is not succeeded by another.

ELAS Atrocities Bared

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 1.—The British Foreign Office in a White Paper has set out some of the documents bearing on the situation in Greece. The White Paper begins with a series of telegrams received by Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, from Reginald Leeper, British Ambassador in Athens, according to a London report.

One of these telegrams, dated January 15, said: "Ever since the Germans left, a small but well-armed Communist group has been practising a reign of terror all over the country. There will be terrible stories to tell. When the fighting began in Athens the brutalities increased rapidly—men, women, and children were murdered in large numbers and thousands of hostages were taken, dragged along the road and left to die.

"Now that the people of Athens are free to speak they speak freely. The idea of meeting the Communist leaders at a conference was repugnant even to men as broad-minded as the Regent of Greece."

In another cable sent the same day, Leeper puts on record a statement by Colonel R. G. Moran, a British officer attached to the King's Royal Rifle Corps, based on first-hand information. It says: "On Christmas Day a column of refugees composed of men and women ejected from their houses by the insurgents were collected in the suburbs of Athens and after being relieved of their footwear and many of their overcoats were driven in the dead of winter along the mountain roads covered with snow. The first mark set by the ELAS guards was nine marching followed by four hours' rest. Every day some died of exhaustion and others were executed.

The British White Paper gives many other examples of ELAS atrocities. There is the message, for instance, from the British Consul General in Salonica. The message, which is dated January 27, quotes the Bishop of Casandra as saying that the ELAS forces were murdering many leading townspeople and that corpses without heads were a common sight. The Bishop of Casandra was also quoted as having declared that the people were 95 per cent against the ELAS.

The British Consul General in another message dated January 27 quotes the Bishop of Sanfi on ELAS conduct in Cassani where up to 10 days previously he had been temporarily officiating. This Greek Bishop said that people suspected of anti-ELAS feelings were arrested daily in large numbers, stripped of their shoes and most of their clothing and marched almost naked to the Monastery of Zabada where they were dying of cold and hunger.

The White Paper quotes other documents in the same strain and it ends by quoting a declaration by the Greek Socialist Party and the Agrarian Party of Macidonia and Thrace. Here are a few extracts: "Since the first day of the civil war caused by the irreconcilable policy of the Greek Communist Party, our forces have closed in with all their forces. Our parties welcome with genuine pleasure the British troops whose presence in our country constitutes the best guarantee for security."

1,218 People Executed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 1.—The Greek Ministry of Justice in an official statement has announced that the total number of people executed by the ELAS and EAM in Athens amounts to 1,218, according to the British News Service.

The statement declared that this number includes the bodies of 168 women, adding that one-fifth of the bodies are those of officers and men of the armed forces (gendarmerie and police) and the remainder those of the lower working and middle classes. The bodies of five priests could also be identified among the corpses, it was further revealed.

Continuing, the statement said that about one half of the corpses bear various marks of torture and in 17 cases one or both eyes had been extracted.

New York State Hit By Serious Dearth Of Foodstuff, Fuel

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—A state of emergency exists today in New York due to the food and fuel shortages caused by the cold weather, transportation tie-up and railroad manpower dearth, Governor Thomas Dewey of New York announced today, according to an Albany report. The Governor said that lack of transportation has caused a serious shortage of coal, oil and gasoline and that appeals are being made to the Solid Fuel Administration for more coal allocation. Dewey stated that many schools, public institutions, amusement places and non-essential stores are closed.

Facts Worth Noting

U.S. Commanders in Pacific

Gen. Douglas MacArthur—C-in-C in Southwestern Pacific

Lt. Gen. Millard Harmon—C-in-C of Air Force in Pacific

Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger—Com. of 6th Army

Lt. Gen. George Kenny—Com. of Air Force

Lt. Gen. Alexander Vandergrift—Com. of Marine Corps

Lt. Gen. Robert Eichelberger—Com. in New Guinea

Lt. Gen. Robert Barker—Same

Maj. Gen. Curtis Lemay—Com. of 21st Bomber Command

Maj. Gen. William Hale—Com. of 7th Army

Maj. Gen. Innis Swift—Com. of 1st Army Group (P.I.)

Maj. Gen. Oscar Griswold—Com. of 14th Army Group (P.I.)

Maj. Gen. Roger W. Grow—Com. of 6th Tank Division

Maj. Gen. Julian Barnes—Com. of Quartermaster Corps in P.I.

Maj. Gen. William Dunckel—Com. in Mindoro

Maj. Gen. Sinclair Street—Com. of 13th Air Force

Maj. Gen. Ennis P. Whitehead—Com. of 5th Air Force

Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger—Com. at Bougainville

Maj. Gen. Ross Roswell—Com. of Air Wing

Maj. Gen. William S. Rupertus—Com. at New Britain

Maj. Gen. Harry Schmidt—Com. of 4th Division (Marines) at Ruot

Maj. Gen. Julian Smith—Com. of 2nd Division (Marines)

Maj. Gen. Charles Collett—Com. at Kuczyerin

Maj. Gen. Rush Lincoln—Com. at New Caledonia

Maj. Gen. Ralph Smith—Com. of 27th Division

Maj. Gen. Charles Straughton—Com. at Marshalls

Brig. Gen. Halford MacNider—Com. of 158th Regimental Combat Team (P.I.)

Brig. Gen. Landon—Com. of 7th Bomber Command

Brig. Gen. Robert Douglas—Deputy Commander

Brig. Gen. Paul Wurtsmith—Com. of Fighter Command of Marine Corps

Brig. Gen. Hayward Hansell—Ex-Com. of 21st Bomber Command

Col. William Verveeks—Com. at Leyte

China, Burma and India Areas

Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer—C-in-C in China, Burma and India

Maj. Gen. Robert McClure—Deputy Commander

Maj. Gen. Daniel Sultan—Com. in Burma and India

Maj. Gen. Richard Sutherland—Deputy Commander

Maj. Gen. George Stratemeyer—Com. of Air Force in China and India

Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault—Com. of 14th Air Force

Brig. Gen. Roger Ramey—Com. of 20th Bomber Command

Brig. Gen. Frank Dorn—Com. in S.W. China

Brig. Gen. T. F. Wessel—Chief of Staff to Dorn

Brig. Gen. Benjamin Ferris—Com. of Air Force

Brig. Gen. Howard Davidson—Com. of 10th Air Force (India)

Brig. Gen. Robert Oliver—Com. of Service Command

Brig. Gen. A. H. Glikinson—Com. of 312th Fighter Wing

Brig. Gen. William Old—Com. of 11th Bomber Command (India)

Brig. Gen. Edgar Glenn—Chief of Staff

Brig. Gen. Reuben Hood—Com. of Air Service in China

Brig. Gen. Laverne Saunders—Wing Commander of 20th Bomber Com.

Brig. Gen. Frank Merril—Com. of "Marauders" Unit in China

Brig. Gen. Kenneth B. Wolfe—Ex-Commander of 20th Bomber Com.

Col. John Sutherland—Chief of Staff to Brig. Gen. Old

Alaska

Lt. Gen. Delos Emmons—Com. in Alaska

Maj. Gen. Simon B. Buckner—Com. in Alaska and Aleutians

Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson—Com. of 11th Air Force

Brig. Gen. Harry Davenport—Com. at Attu

Hawaii

Maj. Gen. Robert Richardson—C-in-C in Hawaii

YANKS DEALT HUGE BLOW BY LOSS OF CHINA BASES

Japanese Occupation of Canton-Hankow Line Frustrates Enemy Design on Continent

By T. TAKAYANAGI
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED FRONT BASE, February 1.—With the complete occupation of the southern section of the Canton-Hankow railway and the fall of Suichwan, the only base that had been the United States air force in Southeastern China, the direct results of our recent operation are (1) the breaking up of the Third, Fourth and Ninth Enemy War Zones; (2) the complete occupation of the Canton-Hankow railway (3) the destruction of Suichwan, the last base for the United States air forces in Southeastern China.

A portion of the Third, Seventh and Ninth War Zones was scheming to attack and cut off our transcontinental route in cooperation with the Chungking Army in Southwestern China, under the new Commander-in-Chief Ho Ying-chin, by forming a joint front with Hsueh Yueh. But such a scheme has now been entirely frustrated. With the successful advance of our Forces in the recent operation the railway line was gained without giving the enemy time to destroy its numerous tunnels and bridges. Thus the reopening of the entire Canton-Hankow railway is expected very shortly, with the reconstruction of the northern section from Hankow to Hengyang.

The so-called Suichwan-Shaochow group of air bases, with Suichwan and Shaochow as its central points, was the only base for the United States Air Forces in Southeastern China since their retreat to the interior. To those air bases the enemy had been bringing supplies by planes and from there they had persistently aimed at obstructing navigation of that portion of the Yangtze River within the Japanese occupied territory and along the Eastern China Sea coast.

But the loss of Suichwan means the reduction by one half the enemy air strength in the Suichwan-Shaochow group of bases. Then as the remaining bases would also be threatened directly by our Forces, their function would virtually cease.

The above mentioned results of our recent operation are significant when viewed from the ambitious American design to approach the continent. With the progress of the Philippine situation Chungking believe the time for the landing of the American forces on the continent had neared, and thus intended to make the coast regions of Kwangtung, Fukien and Chekiang provinces the so-called wharves to welcome the American landing forces. At the same time Chungking hoped to use the Suichwan-Shaochow group of air bases in protecting the landing forces.

But now, with the Canton and Hongkong areas directly connected with Hengyang, all important points along the coast of Southern China are tied up with the sources of our fighting strength. If ever the enemy intends to approach the continent, our great transcontinental transportation artery connecting by rail Chosen and Manchoukuo with the Canton-Hongkong areas, will reveal its great efficiency. In this sense, as the result of the past eight months' great offensive, the fortification of the continent has been completed by the recent operation.

Also from the standpoint of aerial strategy the opening of the railway line has tremendous significance. A line of Japanese air bases across China, extending approximately 1,600 kilometers inland from the coast has been established.

The decisive war on land and sea must at all times be preceded by annihilative air operations. Victory or defeat hangs on air supremacy over the war zones which is determined by the superiority or inferiority of air bases. Therefore as long as the enemy first line air bases still remained east of the Canton-Hankow line, our air defense operations were seriously hindered. The present Japanese offensives along the coast were launched to crush completely the enemy's first line air bases.

The enemy's air bases at Kienow, Fukien Province, Lishui, Chekiang Province, and Hsincheng, Klangsi Province, collapsed early in the operations. The only remaining bases were Suichwan, Kanchow and Nanyung in Kwangtung Province, but the speedy advance of the Japanese Land Forces pressing from the north and south soon occupied Suichow.

In glancing over the situation after the Japanese seizure of the enemy's air bases along the coastal area, a formidable line has been formed east of the Kweilin-Liuchow line extending 1,000 kilometers to the coast. Furthermore in this vast area spreading over Central and South China there are no places where the enemy planes may make landings. The bombing power of the Japanese Air Forces in China in parallel with the firm stand of the Land Forces, has now assumed a position of unassailable proportions.

Shaokwan War Results Given

By K. KATAGIRI
Of the Military Press Corps

SOUTH CHINA FRONT, January 31.—Japanese Units advancing northward along the right bank of the Pei River have obtained the following war results in their operation against Shaokwan up to the present:

The enemy bodies abandoned numbered 1,005 including those of Lieutenant General Yo Lung-teh, councillor to the Kwangtung Provincial Government and 25 other staff officers; 254 including 12 officers were taken prisoner, and numerous arms were seized including one 24-inch heavy gun, six mountain guns, 10 sleigh guns, seven machineguns, 15 heavy and light machineguns, some 2,000 rifles, 40,000 bullets of various kinds and 300,000 rounds of ammunition for rifles.

Chihkiang Airfield Hit

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, January 31.—Japanese Bomber Units in China attacked Chihkiang airfield on the night of January 29 and, despite the furious counterattacks of enemy planes and a barrage of terrific AA fire, set ablaze three planes of unidentified category and blasted one large and one small plane, making a total of five. All the Japanese planes returned safely.

Bad weather had prevented the activity of the Japanese Air Units but with the moon showing through the rifts in the clouds on this night the Japanese planes roared off on their attack on the foremost base of the American air forces in China.

2 BORNEO RAIDERS DOWNED

B-24's, P-38's Raid Balik Papan; 90 B-29's Bomb Shonan

Domei

SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC BASE, February 2.—One B-24 attacked Balik Papan, Borneo Island, before daybreak yesterday, and some P-38's raided the same area in several waves during daylight the same day. The Japanese furiously intercepted the raiders and downed two. No damage was sustained by the Japanese side.

90 B-29's Raid Shonan

Domei

CERTAIN BASE, February 1.—Nine formations consisting of about 90 B-29's based at Calcutta attacked Shonan at about 11 a.m. today, and for one and a half hours wantonly bombed the city from an altitude of 9,000 meters. However, furiously counterattacked by the Japanese, the enemy raiders fled northwestward at about 12:30 p.m. In the course of the aerial combats, Japanese Air Units downed one B-29 and chased the fleeing raiders. Damage on our side was slight.

Taking into consideration the fact that the enemy had made reconnaissance flights and carried out bombing attacks on Shonan on several occasions since January 11, it can be surmised that the enemy is designing to hamper the movement of Japanese Troops from the Malai area to the Philippine Front.

London Poles Sever Diplomatic Relations With Czechoslovakia

Special to Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—The exile Polish Government in London tonight announced that it had severed diplomatic relations with the Czechoslovak Emigre Government in London, which yesterday decided to recognize the Polish Provisional Government in Lublin, a London dispatch disclosed today. The statement added that the Polish Government does not in any way change its attitude toward the Czechoslovak people and will not give up the efforts made so far to establish close collaboration and a lasting union between the Polish and Czechoslovak nations. Meanwhile, a Moscow report said that Premier Josef Stalin in a personal initiative to end the Polish dead lock has invited the heads of the Polish political parties other than those connected with the Lublin regime to a meeting in Moscow.

FUKUO COAL MINE TAKEN IN SHAOKWAN CAMPAIGN

Quick Nippon Action Forces Enemy to Flee Leaving All Pit Facilities Intact

By K. KATAGIRI
Of the Military Press Corps

ADVANCE BASE IN SOUTH CHINA, February 1.—Japanese Raiding Units which had advanced northward along the right bank of the Pei River and completely occupied Shaokwan, surprise-attacked and seized the Fukuo coal mine, 16 kilometers north of Shaokwan at 7:30 p.m. on January 27. Due to the quick action of the Japanese, the enemy had no time to blast the mine facilities there, and consequently the power plant for the light railway, water system, work shops, repair shops and other establishments belonging to the mine fell into Japanese hands intact.

SOVIET UNION SUCCEEDS IN BOLSHEVIZING ITALY

Communistic Influence Making Big Headway Under Direction of Togliatti

During the administration of Benito Mussolini, the Communist movement was entirely suppressed in Italy. However, as the war situation became unfavorable, the propounders of Communism began secret activities through the dissemination of leaflets and verbal propaganda, taking advantage of the people's dissatisfaction. There is now no room for doubt that definite preparations are under way for the bolshevizing of Italy.

After the downfall of Premier Mussolini, Moscow commenced to interfere in the internal politics of Italy, appearing openly on the political stage of that country. As a first step, the Soviet Union sent back to Italy Palmiro Togliatti, a communist and now Deputy Premier of the Bonomi Government, who for 20 years was professor at Torino University and who played a leading role in the Comintern under Premier Josef Stalin. It was Togliatti who once said that Premier Mussolini was the only enemy to be feared in southern Italy. At first Togliatti endeavored to increase the influence of the Communist Party within the Italian Government by compromising with other political parties. However, as the Italian Government come to a crisis, he suddenly started a very active campaign as was his usual method.

In the first Bonomi Cabinet, State Ministers from the Communist Party were only Togliatti himself, as a Minister without Portfolio, and the Agriculture Minister. But in the second Bonomi Cabinet, not only was Togliatti made Deputy Premier, but three additional Ministers were appointed from the Communist Party. All these men began an active propaganda campaign through the Unita, a party organ, and other methods. For instance, there was organized the Soviet Cinema Film Company at Rome for the production of propaganda cultural films to make known to the Italian people the Soviet system and policy. Not only did the Bonomi Government give its approval to the establishment of the Soviet Cinema Film Company as the headquarters for propaganda through films, but it is most interesting to note that it is also giving a considerable subsidy to the company.

Furthermore, it is reported that Italy will be given labor service organized by the Soviet people. This is believed to be for the purpose of creating a political and moral influence on young Italian men and boys. Then, there has also been organized the La Gatze di Italia which is camouflaged as a non-political organization but which is actually a Communistic body for youths. This organization includes boys and girls of all classes, and within a few months since its establishment there were formed 24 groups in Rome alone. Such organizations are springing up throughout all regions of the occupied territory.

Togliatti formed a plan to send many Italian families to the Soviet Union to contribute to the recovery of the latter country. The Communist Party is also instigating various other activities and Communistic elements are making their appearance in various cities and towns, making vast promises to the Italian people. Also the members of the Soviet Labor Union are traveling through Italy and making inciting addresses at meetings of Italian workers.

Communistic influence in Italy is thus steadily advancing. A Berta dispatch in the Aftonbladet, dated October 4 last year said that in respect to the Communistic campaign in Italy, the Soviets are gaining the respect of the Italians as they show understanding and sympathy with the present difficult condition in Italy, which is contrary to the attitude of the British and Americans.

Britain Resolves To Fight

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 1.—Britain is determined to fight the war against the Japanese to the end at the side of the Americans, Richard K. Law, British Minister of State attached to the Foreign Office, told the House of Commons yesterday, according to a London report. Law stated that the British forces are already engaged against the Japanese and that these forces will be reinforced when the war in Europe ends.

Loss of U.S. Air Bases Seen

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—The loss of some American air bases east of the China-French Indo-China border is imminent, Lieutenant General Albert C. Wedemeyer, Commander of the U.S. Forces in China, declared today, according to a Chungking report. However, he pointed out that the United States air force is already contributing greatly toward the success of the American operations in the Philippines.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 1

In Hungary strong Soviet attacks between the Sarviz Canal and the Danube as well as northeast of Stuhlweissenburg were halted after hard fighting.

On the Oder front the enemy attempts to widen his bridgeheads failed with heavy enemy losses. In the Oder-Warthe bend and in the area west of Zuellichau-Schwiebus and west of Chwerin, our troops held numerous strong points against fierce attacks. Operational reserves are being employed against enemy tank spearheads which pushed forward as far as into the Sternberg-Zielenzig area. North of the Warthe the enemy forces advanced as far as the Oder northwest of Kuestrin where they encountered our newly brought up reserves.

In the southern part of Pommerania numerous Soviet attacks were repulsed and the enemy scouting forces which had advanced northward were thrown back. The Posen garrison defended itself against the Soviets attacking from several sides. Northwest of Kulm and at Elbing there was fluctuating fighting.

In East Prussia heavy fighting took place at Wormditt, Heilsberg, Friedland and on both sides of Koenigsberg and in the course of this fighting 54 enemy tanks were destroyed. The Soviet tank spearheads and the enemy supplies were again yesterday attacked by our battle-planes and fighters, which disabled 24 enemy tanks, 21 guns and destroyed hundreds of vehicles. On the Courland front our troops beat off numerous Soviet attacks.

In Holland the weak garrison, consisting of paratroops, which for weeks has been holding a small bridgehead south of the Maas at Gertruidenburg against far superior enemy forces was withdrawn to the northern bank of the river.

Numerous attacks, launched again yesterday by the U.S. 1st and parts of the 3rd Army on the entire front between Monschau and St. Vith, came to a standstill deep inside our main lines after fierce fighting while in Upper Alsace the enemy enlarged somewhat his penetration area east and northeast of Colmar losing 14 tanks.

Storm-Vikings of the navy who during the night of January 29 were employed against the Anglo-American supply traffic in the Scheldt mouth, report the sinking of one tanker. In addition five heavy detonations were observed by our gunners on Shouwen Island so that the sinking of further enemy ships may be assumed.

In the Herzegowina our troops inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy in an attack south of Mostar and numerous tanks and mountain guns were destroyed and seized. In this fighting in which a considerable area was cleared of partisan bands, Croat formations have particularly distinguished themselves in the fighting side by side with the German formations.

American terror raiders yesterday bombed greater Vienna.

The long range fire on London is being continued.

FUTURE TRADE DISCUSSED

Canada to Aim for Quality and Dependability in Postwar Exports

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—Suggestions that Britain should trade some of her Atlantic and Pacific bases to the United States were renewed in the United States press, the Financial News reported on January 12. In return, the United States would send $3,000,000 to $4,000,000 worth of exports to Britain to revive the exhausted British economy after the war.

The Times reporting on December 13, said that the reconversion problems are naturally occupying a prominent place in subjects being dealt with by the Canadian bank presidents in addresses at the annual meetings. It stated that one of the problems calling particular attention is Canada's future export policy. President Spinney of the Bank of Montreal, pointed out that the Dominions' export trade was running at a rate of over $3,000,000,000 annually and probably not more than 25 per cent of the present exports represented ordinary peace time business.

Successes in postwar export markets must depend on quality and price and one of his suggestions was that Canada might develop world wide reputation for speciality products of extremely high quality and dependable standard. Another aspect of the problem is the manners in which Canada can receive payments for exports.

ISSUE OVER NOMINATION OF WALLACE UNSETTLED

Administration Delays Senate's Consideration; Internal Rift In Party Worsens

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—The Roosevelt Administration defeated the all-out foes of Henry Wallace today by forcing a delay in Senate consideration of his Cabinet appointment as the new Secretary of Commerce, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

Through the delay, which may extend into weeks, Wallace backers hoped to win the ultimate confirmation of the former Vice-President by stripping the Department of Commerce of its large lending agencies.

Beating down on a 43 to 41 vote an attempt by Senator Josiah W. Bailey, Democrat of North Carolina, to force an immediate consideration of the appointment, the Senate leadership obtained the right of way for the George Bill. This is a measure designed to set up the RFC and other lending agencies as a separate administration. Majority Leader Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky then moved to bring up the bill by Senator Walter F. George, Democrat of Georgia.

Wallace supporters have conceded that unless this measure becomes law or President Roosevelt takes the lending agencies out of the Department of Commerce, Wallace cannot be confirmed for the Cabinet post.

Senator George told the Senate Commerce Committee that he and others had doubted the wisdom of permitting one man to hold both the Commerce post and the lending agencies at the time Jesse Jones, the dismissed Secretary of Commerce, was authorized by Congress to do so.

Meanwhile, observers said that the Wallace question was causing internal dissension among the ranks of the Democratic Party. The party was to hold an urgent meeting of Party Congressmen today to revamp the Party position. Furious political jockeying was going on between Democratic and Republican Congressmen and between Administration and anti-Administration Congressmen.

MAY PASS U.S. DRAFT BILL

Representative May Confident of Approval by Lower House

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 1.—Approval by the Lower House of the nation's first National Service Law was expected soon, declared Representative Andrew J. May, Kentucky Democrat, and author of the bill which would give the Selective Service Board the power to seize men between 18 and 45 years not in uniform and war jobs for induction into the armed services, according to a Washington report.

May said that he believed the vote will be 21 to one in favor of the bill. Representative John W. McCormack, Massachusetts Democrat, was also confident of the House's approval today.

Meanwhile, the House of Representatives defeated two proposed amendments, Speaker Sam Rayburn announced today. One amendment that was defeated provided that none would be compelled to go to work in closed shop war plants and need not join the union. The other proposed amendment provided against discrimination because of race, creed or color.

29 Blasted at Shebo

Domei

ADVANCE BASE IN BURMA, February 2.—Japanese Bomber Units attacked the enemy airfield at Shebo in central Burma on the night of January 31 and damaged 12 enemy planes (five unconfirmed) on the ground and set ablaze 17 others including two large machines, bringing the total of enemy planes damaged and set afire to 29. All the Japanese planes returned safely.

ENEMY PROPAGANDA HIT

Berlin Not Being Evacuated, Declares Reich Press Chief Suendermann

Domei

BERLIN, February 1.—The allegations of the enemy that Berlin is being evacuated and the authorities are fleeing are pure nonsense, Dr. Helmut Suendermann, Acting Reich Press Chief, told foreign press correspondents today.

It had been known for a long time, he stressed, that the Soviet offensive had ambitious aims and it was now evident that their goal was Berlin but the Reich capital was not thinking of flight. On the other hand resistance is being bolstered as anybody could see, he added.

He further said that Berlin had been the dream of Germany's enemies but predicted disappointment pointing out that Berlin, which had withstood unflinchingly the Anglo-American terror raids was ready to strike at the enemy, should they attempt such an undertaking as to take the city.

In the meantime, it would be extremely inconvenient for the Anglo-Americans if the Soviets were to reach Berlin before the "war gains" of the individual anti-Axis countries were agreed on, declared the Yorkshire Post, in discussing the situation created by the Soviet advance, a London dispatch disclosed today. The paper expressed the fear that each anti-Axis country would, without regard to the common goal, act unilaterally on German territory and stated that one of the foremost tasks of the Roosevelt-Stalin-Churchill meeting was the establishment of an organization to determine the war spoils.

ILO Discloses Plans

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 1.—The International Labor Organization meeting in London has decided to establish seven world industrial committees, according to a London report. It said that the first will deal with inland transportation including internal air lines and will pay special attention to the immense problems of rebuilding the European transport system. The other committees will deal with iron and steel, coal mining, engineering, textiles, buildings and petroleum. The committees will deal first with the special problems involved in the transition from war to peace and later to lay down amenable conditions for all industries throughout the world. The report, however, added that the future of the ILO is still remote in parts.

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Thailand
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Burma
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Malai
Ipoh, Johore-Bharu, Kuala-Kangsar, Kuala-Lipis, Kuala-Lumpur, Kuantan, Malacca, Penang, Seremban, Shonan, Tandjoeng-Pinang (Shonan), Taiping.

Sumatra
Bencoolen, Bukit-Tinggi, Djambi, Kota-Raja, Lho-Seumawe, Medan, Padang, Pakanbaroe, Palembang, Pangkal-Pinang, Pematang-Siantar, Sibolga, Telok-Metong.

Djawa
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ARMY GAINS FULL CONTROL OVER CANTON-HANKOW LINE

Latest Nippon Gain Marks New Stage of War; Is Big Blow To Chiang Regime

Domei

CANTON, January 31.—The complete occupation of the Canton-Hankow railway by the Japanese Forces marks the beginning of a significant stage in the War of Greater East Asia.

The Canton-Hankow railway has played a big role as the supply artery of the Chungking regime. Since several times it has been said that "food crops in Hunan and Hupei will feed the entire country." The railway supplied Chungking not only with rice and other cereals produced in Hunan and Hupei but also with sweet potatoes, peanuts, wheat, paulownia oil, antimony, tungsten and coal which are also abundantly produced in the two provinces. Human resources were also transported to Chungking by this railway.

Now that the entire line has been taken by our Forces, and with the Peking-Hankow railway in our control, the China Continent is completely divided into two. The railway line which had formerly been the supply route of anti-Japan resistance has now become the supply route of the Japanese Forces.

The control of this railway and supply route is our silent answer to Chungking's cry for a prolonged war.

The opening of the entire Canton-Hankow railway, running for a distance of 1,095 kilometers is greatly significant from the military standpoint. First, it cuts into half the distance that intervenes between Central and South China.

Secondly, by the complete occupation of the railway, the dent which was made by the enemy on the east side of the route across the continent has been filled up, adding considerably to its invulnerability.

Thirdly, the possession of the Canton-Hankow railway has greatly improved the military position of Japan on the entire continent. The Japanese Forces are in an infinitely better place now to operate with mobile forces against the American enemy who is contemplating upon getting to the continent and engaging operations there.

With the simultaneous control of the Suichwan Airfield in Japanese hands, it has become increasingly evident that the enemy is retreating. This airfield together with others in the Suichwan-Kanchow area was constructed by the enemy with the plan of using it as a base from which to carry out bombing attacks against the Japanese mainland but by the present action of the China Expeditionary Army, the enemy airfields have come under Japanese control to be used in air attacks against the enemy in China.

Repair Work Under Way

Domei

YINGTAK, January 31.—The southern section of the Canton-Hankow railway, which fell completely into our hands by the juncture of the Japanese Forces advancing from the south and the north, is already being repaired by our Railway Corps. These corps, who followed in the wake of the units advancing southward from Canton, are working day and night to repair the section extending about 300 kilometers from Lochang to Yinchunyao, which was stripped of a considerable portion of its rails by the fleeing enemy, by laying new rails, repairing damaged bridges and cleaning up tunnels.

Although the enemy carried off part of the rails, they were not able to do very great damage as they were hotly pursued by our Forces. The torn-up rails were afterward found in the ditches and woods along the line with the cooperation of the inhabitants of the locality. Repair work on this section is thus making rapid progress.

Special Units Active

Domei

HUNAN FRONT, January 31.—The outstanding feature of the latest Japanese campaign on the China Continent, which resulted in the successful reopening of the Canton-Hankow railway, is the employment of Special Service Units which slipped into enemy territory far in advance of the main strength of our Forces.

The daring activities of these units have been described by a staff officer of the Japanese Army in Central China who recently returned to his headquarters after a series of reconnaissance flights over enemy territory along the Canton-Hankow railway.

The success or failure of the present campaign hinged upon whether or not our Special Service Units succeeded in their infiltration activities far in advance of the arrival of our main strength. In order to ensure their success, members of the Special Service Units were given special training, and each unit commander made particularly careful preparations. These units were tasked with the difficult job of slipping into the midst of the enemy. They had to climb rugged mountains and traverse muddy paths, encamp in forests during the day and slip through the darkness at night.

Since kindling a fire for cooking was out of the question in the midst of the enemy, the units had to depend on small quantities of prepared food carried with them. The maps they used were seized from the enemy. Owing to their inaccuracy however, our Units were sometimes obliged to cover distances twice as great as that indicated on the maps. At night they depended solely on the compass.

Anniversary Observed

Local German residents and Japanese guests of honor, led by Ambassador H. G. Stahmer participated in a celebration marking the 12th year of Fuehrer Hitler's assumption of power on Tuesday as shown in above photo.

Chen, Chu Given Posts

Domei

NANKING, February 1.—Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of Nanking, was nominated director of the Organization Department of the Central Kuomintang succeeding Chen Chun-pu and at the same time, Dr. Chu Min-yi, Foreign Minister, was nominated director of the Publicity Department replacing Lin Pai-sheng, at the Central Directors' meeting of the Kuomintang held here yesterday.

Matsumoto Given Post

Domei

HSINKING, February 1.—Toyozo Matsumoto, former chairman of the Board of Directors of the Manshu Nichi Nichi Shimbun, will be appointed chairman of the Board of Directors of the Manchoukuo Nippo and concurrently chairman of the Manchoukuo News Agency effective February 2, it was announced by the Manchoukuo Government. The resignation of the former chairman Gisaburo Matsukata was also announced.

Manchou Officers Promoted

Domei

HSINKING, February 1.—Lieutenant General Wang Shih-yu of the Manchoukuo Army has been promoted to the rank of full general, while Major General Liu Shao-hua, Commander of the Manchoukuo Gendarmerie, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant general.

Made Munitions Inspector

Lieutenant General Yoshitaro Sakaguchi under date of February 1 was appointed Munitions Inspector of the Munitions Ministry and concurrently Director of the Munitions Inspection Department of the Tokai Army.

Manchou Envoy in Nanking

Domei

NANKING, February 2.—Li Shao-keng, Manchoukuo Ambassador to the National Government of China, arrived here this morning from Shanghai. He was welcomed here by a large crowd of Government officials and people.

Ninghsia Governor Passes

Domei

CANTON, January 31.—Ma Hung-ta, Governor of Ninghsia Province, died on January 26 in Ninghsia, according to a Lanchow dispatch of January 29. He was 71 years old. Ma was one of the elder statesmen of the Moslems in the northwest and had deserted Feng Yu-hsiang's forces together with Han Fu-chu, the former Governor of Shantung Province, to join the Central Army. He was in command of the 35th Division and of the newly organized Chungking 7th Division before assuming the governorship of Ninghsia.

PAY TRIBUTE TO RASH BOSE

Indians Hold Mass Memorial Services In Rangoon, Saigon

Domei

RANGOON, January 29.—Paying final tribute to Rash Behari Bose, Supreme Advisor to the Provisional Government of Free India, Indian residents in Burma held a mass memorial service here yesterday at the Metropolitan Auditorium.

Before an altar adorned with a huge picture of Rash Behari Bose draped with black ribbons, Government and military officials representing Free India and Japan, and hundreds of Indians paid their respects and solemnly prayed for the peaceful repose of the deceased Indian patriot.

During the service, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, in eulogizing Behari Bose and his life-long struggle for the cause of the independence of his motherland, reiterated the firm resolve of the Indians to fight until the Anglo-Americans are driven out of East Asia and India is liberated from the shackles of Anglo-Saxon imperialism. He said that the spirit of Behari Bose will be a guiding light until the Indians accomplish their goal.

Saigon Indians Hold Service

Domei

SAIGON, January 30.—Indian residents here yesterday evening held a mass memorial service in memory of the late Rash Behari Bose. Supreme Adviser to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and foremost Indian patriot of East Asia who devoted his life to the cause of India's independence.

Among the celebrities attending the service was M. Sivaram, Spokesman of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, who delivered an address paying final tribute to the late Behari Bose and exhorted the Indians to reaffirm their determination to crush the United States and Britain.

Sadistic Enemy in North Burma Slaughter Innocent People, Destroy Holy Structures

Domei

RANGOON, January 29.—A Buddhist priest in charge of a temple at Namuma, northwest of Myitkyina, after a narrow escape from death at the hands of the British-Indian and Chungking armies, has brought back tales of their atrocities in North Burma, unbelievable in their dastardliness and savagery.

According to the old venerable's story, a reign of terror holds sway in the regions occupied by the enemy. Their army is a conglomeration of diverse races, undisciplined and unruly, with murder in their hearts. Countless numbers of the Burmese people have been killed in cold blood since the enemy invaded Burma with the idea of recapturing the country.

If any single member of a house which the enemy have occupied is missing or if, after getting permission to leave his own house, he is delayed in returning within the given time, then all the rest of the household will be killed at once, recounts the priest. They have forcibly removed all capable men between 16 and 40 to work for them while the women, irrespective of race, have been taken away, their whereabouts and well-being unknown to their families. Young men have often been manhandled but they have managed to outwit the enemy and made their escape.

In Myitkyina as well as in Mogoon, temples and pagodas have been bombed and demolished while in many towns and villages, not a single house remains, so severe and relentless have been the air attacks. What stores and shops are left, are seized and usurped by the enemy soldiers as soon as they occupy the towns.

The enemy is trying every means to induce the people to their side but their cruelty and barbarism have shown which way the Burmese people should take. They are certain their salvation lies in cooperation with the men of the Japanese Forces and to this end they are channelling all their strength.

ANTI-LUXURY PROHIBITION PROLONGED INDEFINITELY

New Measure Bans High-Class Entertainments Until Victory Is Gained

The temporary one-year suspension of various kinds of so-called high-class entertainments and luxurious undertakings, which was enforced on March 5, 1944, as a result of a decision reached by the Cabinet, will be kept in force for an indefinite period after March 5 this year, it was announced by the Board of Information on Thursday. This means that luxuries will not be permitted in this country until final victory is gained.

Since the enforcement of this measure last year so many high-grade restaurants, theaters and other luxurious entertainment houses have either been abolished voluntarily or shifted to public benefits, but still a great many have been following a vacillating attitude because of the temporary measure. The decision of the new policy has nullified this attitude of those who maintain their businesses. It is generally believed that steps will be taken to induce them to convert their buildings into industrial plants, dormitories for factory workers, evacuees, sufferers from calamities, and so forth.

The Government has hitherto been following a policy of allowing the continuance of theatrical entertainment on the condition that admission fee must be no more than ¥5 per capita including the tax. Due, however, to the fact that this admission fee is too low for the management to keep up business without a loss, the Government has decided to allow the admission fee to be raised more or less.

Before March 5, 1944, when the urgent measure was enforced, there were about 63,200 high-class restaurants, geisha houses, "machiai," cafes and bars in this country. During the 11 months since then, 11,010 of these houses have been abolished and 19,953 have suspended their business temporarily. Still, so many houses are keeping their business, but they will have to dispense with it for an indefinite period, due to the new measure.

Fleeing B-29 Filmed

A B-29, trailing white smoke and frantically attempting to flee, has been caught by the lens of a member of the Military Press Corps. When several formations of B-29's penetrated Tokyo on January 27, the Military Press Corps member from the Japan Eigasha boarded a scouting plane at a certain base. The enemy planes were soon contacted. The cameraman turned his lens on the enemy planes at the distance of 800 meters and cranked away at his camera even while machine guns fired at the bombers furiously from his plane. The film is being shown from February 1 under Series No. 244 of Nippon News.

Buying Silver Drive Continues

Although the period of Government purchase of silver began toward the end of last year ended on January 31, silver will still continue to be purchased at various designated places. The present silver purchase campaign came as a whole up to 86 per cent of the anticipated mark. The estimated goal was topped in 12 prefectures, with Kanagawa leading with a record of 192 per cent. However, there were 15 prefectures that did not reach the 50 per cent mark. As it is still thought that a considerable amount of silver-made goods has not yet been mustered into the war line, purchases will still be continued.

Hiroshima Mint Opens

A branch of the Government Mint was opened on February 1 in Hiroshima by the Finance Ministry and Ryutaro Numata, head of the Monopoly Bureau in Mito District, has been appointed the first director of the Hiroshima Mint.

Naval Heroes Die

Commander Yasuo Enomoto, Warrant Officer Tokuji Nampo, First Class Petty Officer Matsutaro Enomoto and others of the Imperial Navy died in action, it was announced by the Yokosuka Naval Station on Saturday.

Obituary

Seiro Goto, 56, president and concurrently editor in chief of the Shin Iwate Nippo, died on Thursday at the Morioka Hospital. He had been under medical treatment for kidney trouble since autumn of last year.

Tsunesada Samukawa, 71, president of the Tokai Electrode Manufacturing Company, died of cerebral hemorrhage at his Yugawara villa on January 30.

Koun Nakaya, sculptor, 56, died of hardening of the blood vessels of the brain at his Asagaya home on January 21.

Paymaster Rear Admiral Rikichi Ishiguro, 60, retired, passed away from acute pneumonia at his Setagaya home on January 29.

Faithful Dog Keeps Vigil at Base for Pilot Who Died in Body-Crashing Attack on B-29

Domei

UNDISCLOSED AIR BASE, January 30.—With its ears pricked high a brown mongrel dashes out to meet every incoming plane but only to return with its ears hanging low. This is the routine taken up and still being continued by a young brown dog which recently strayed into this air base to be adopted by a non-commissioned officer who one day took off on a mission to intercept enemy B-29 raiders and has not yet returned.

One day Non-Commissioned Officer Awamura found a brown mongrel at one corner of the airmen's quarters shaking with fright at the roar of airplane motors. Immediately the non-commissioned officer took the dog into his care and showed particular fondness for it, even sharing his food with it.

As days passed the dog, getting used to the roar of airplane motors, in return showed its strong affection for the pilot. This soon changed into typical canine worship for his master. So close was their friendship that whenever Pilot Awamura was given an order to take off the dog would make a futile but insistent effort to jump into the cockpit of the plane. When Awamura took off the dog would run after the plane as far as he could and then stand there until his master returned.

It was on January 9 that this dog as usual ran after the plane and waited on the spot for the return of his master. As the day passed fighter after fighter returned to the base bringing with them thrilling stories of air combats they had had with enemy "Super-Fortresses". But the dog still stood in his position looking out toward the skies waiting for another plane.

Then a sergeant who had confirmed the gallant death of Non-Commissioned Officer Awamura who had brought down an enemy "Super-Fortress" with a body-crashing attack, quietly walked up to the dog. He kneeled down beside the dog, put his arm around it and whispered to it that his master would not return. As if he understood the sergeant's explanation, the dog tore away from the sergeant and dashed out toward the runway now empty in the evening dusk.

All night long the dog's wailing howl was heard near Awamura's quarters. On the following day the dog was seen making the round of the pilots' quarters, seeking for its master. With each take-off of a unit the dog is seen eagerly rushing out looking for its master. Today's order has been fulfilled and all the pilots have returned but still the brown mongrel is gazing out toward the evening skies, longingly awaiting the return of the missing plane.

PRESS COMMENTS

Friday, February 2

NEW CHINA OPERATIONS AND THE ENTIRE WAR SITUATION

YOMIURI-HOCHI—The operations which were carried out last year to cut through the China Continent not merely forced open a trans-continental road from North China to French Indo-China by cutting off the enemy in the east and west, but it was at the same time an effective forestalling operation in blocking the American plans to establish a liaison through coastal operations with the Chungking forces. The new operations started since the middle of January have further strengthened the Continental transportation and struck a new path to Canton by making usable the Canton-Hankow line. Moreover, they will serve to blast the tactical moves of the enemy who is trying to take advantage of the new war situation on Luzon Island.

With the landing of the American forces on Luzon Island, the war situation in the Philippines entered a grave phase. If we consider the movements of Chungking from about the time of this landing, we find the announcement of the financial plan for the new fiscal year, with reliance on material economy, according to which 80 per cent of the materials are to be diverted directly to the war prosecution. Moreover, through the establishment of a Wartime Production Board and a Wartime Transportation Board, it is planned to bring the production of armaments by spring to twice the level of last year.

Chungking decided on such a plan with the intention of acting in concert with the planned American coastal operations. This can be deduced from articles in the Chungking newspapers. One paper, for instance, in a recent issue expressed the hope that America would carry out landing operations on the Chinese Continent simultaneous with the Philippine operations. The paper urged a speeding-up of the China landing operations as much as possible because if Japan's coastal bases are strengthened, action would become impossible.

On the basis of this thought, the Chungking established a fighting command at Kweiyang and assembled leaders of the American forces and the Chiang forces. According to the report of Joseph Mansfield, President Roosevelt's special envoy to Chungking, 100,000 out of the 300,000 troops under the command of Hu Tsung-nan, which had heretofore been used to block the Yenan forces, have now been sent to the Kweiyang front. From Yunnan also Chungking troops with Americanized equipment are being transported to the Kweichow area. From this it is surmised that they are considering a breakthrough operation toward the coast. In the vicinity of Bias Bay, near Canton, detached columns of the Chungking and Yenan forces were making stealthy movements in order to establish coastal bases. It is also reported in some quarters that the Chungking Loyal National Salvation Corps and the New Fourth Yenan Army are moving to effect a junction in the coastal area.

On the other hand, America is afraid of Japan's fighting strength as may be gathered from Lieutenant-General Albert C. Wedemeyer's statement to the effect that in spite of the landing of the American forces on Luzon Island, the Japanese Army still possesses enough strength to carry out large-scale operations on the Continent. At the same time, in order to strengthen the Chungking forces, America is increasing her troops in China. Robert MacLure, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Forces in Chungking, has been appointed as the new commander of these forces and is supposed also to assist and guide the Chungking forces.

Furthermore, in order to teach the Chungking forces modern warfare tactics, a large number of Americans have been assigned to the various Chungking units and have taken up training. Moreover, numerous groups of staff officers have been incorporated into the Chungking Army to direct them, with Chiang Kai-shek's understanding.

Foremost attention should be given the fact that the groom of airfields at Suichuan and Kanchow, in Kiangsi, which have in the past sustained frequent bombings from Japanese Air Units, were cut off from contact with their rear bases, particularly since the operations of last year which cut through the Continent. Thus the enemy did not hesitate to abandon them, which were practically paralized. However, since the recent landings in the Philippines, the enemy is once more concentrating numerous bombing planes there from the interior. It is with this area as his base that the enemy has been engaged recently in bombing Shanghai, Nanking, Canton, Anking, and similar places.

America has recently been increasing her forces in China and has established a new Liberator air force. In short, she is leading the war of resistance of the Chungking forces and, encouraging the adjustment of relations between the Kuomintang and the Communists, is demanding joint operations by the Chungking and Yenan forces. Moreover, reviving the smashed airfields, she has been strengthening her air raids against the coastal cities. From all this it is evident what America is planning to do in the present stage of the War of Greater East Asia. Again, Chungking's most recent movements have obviously been set into motion and intensified in strength by American maneuvers.

Our South China Expeditionary Forces, in the middle of January, occupied Hweichow, an enemy base, gained control over Bias Bay and thus smashed the base for cooperation between America and Chungking. Going one step further, our Forces occupied Shaokwang, seat of the headquarters of the Seventh War Zone, established a through service on the Canton-Hankow Railway and disrupted the functioning of the airfields at Suichuan and Kanchow. This new operation is by no means a mere extension of last year's campaign on the Continent. It has another meaning in having blocked the enemy's new maneuvers which the latter has been attempting to undertake in view of the new war situation.

Nevertheless, the enemy's determination to fight must not be slighted. The United States has obstinate strategical desires for the Chinese Continent. Chungking, though weak, is showing its readiness to assist America. Rather than feel at ease on account of the results of our new operations, we should reflect on the present stage of the War of Greater East Asia as a whole and make added endeavors for its full prosecution.

Telegraphic Remittance Limited

Domei

PEKING, February 1.—Telegraphic remittance of money to Japan Proper from North China has been limited to ¥300 a month per capita instead of ¥500 as hitherto.

JAPAN CAN MEET DEMANDS OF FURTHER MOBILIZATION

Compared to Other Belligerents, Nation Has Reassuring Surplus of Able Bodied Youths

Japan still has a greater surplus of able-bodied youths who can be mobilized than any of the other belligerent nations of the world. Furthermore, the physical condition of young recruits is much better than in the past, thus declared Major General Yoshio Nasu, Director of the Recruitment Bureau of the War Ministry, at the session of the Military Law Committee in the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

In reply to a question asked by Nerimaru Uyematsu, Major General Nasu said:

"According to recent newspaper reports, the United States has again expanded her mobilization plan although at one time she was gradually reducing the number of new recruits. Britain is now meeting difficulty in her troop mobilization plan as well as in general mobilization. Compared with conditions in other belligerent countries, the situation in Japan shows the greatest surplus of mobilizable military strength that can be mobilized.

"However, in general mobilization, we require more men per unit than the United States because of our production structure and technique. Yet in this field also, our condition is believed to be generally the same as in the enemy countries. Regarding mobilization of men for service in the Army and Navy, every possible measure has already been taken to meet requirements.

"As regards general mobilization, there are still some preparations to be made. We can meet a still greater demand for military strength. In short, there is no need to worry about meeting future demands for military strength as we have sufficient resources."

As regards the physical condition of the men mobilized for army and navy service, Major General Nasu said that since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the physical condition of conscripts has not only not been lowered but on the contrary there has of late been a marked improvement. Compared with the physical condition of conscripts in the Meiji Era, the youth of today shows a great improvement both in height and weight, he said.

Yank Profiteers Sentenced

Domei

LISBON, February 1.—Three American soldiers who had sold fuel, bedding, etc. to French civilians were sentenced to a total prison term of 61 years by the military court of the headquarters of the U.S. 7th Army. One sergeant was sentenced to 25 years, while the others two were given terms of 18 years each.

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Breakdown of the Dumbarton Oaks Plan

The recent political developments in Europe as well as the diplomatic policies now being pursued by the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union all seem to point to a general breakdown of the anti-Axis plan for the establishment of a postwar international peace machinery which was formulated at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. They demonstrate the apparent inability of the major anti-Axis nations to find a common denominator for an equitable peace as well as to submerge their selfish national ambitions in the larger interest of universal accord.

First among such developments was the conclusion of the Franco-Soviet Alliance on December 10 at Moscow. The signing of this treaty was irrefragable evidence of the reversion to the balance of power theory of the pre-war pattern as well as a severe indictment of the motives behind the Anglo-American scheme for the creation of a postwar peace machinery. It was an expression of France's dissatisfaction with the position assigned to her by Britain in the Western European bloc and also in the executive council of the proposed international peace organization in which she was expected by both the United States and Britain to play the role of an Anglo-American puppet. It was a manifestation on the part of the Soviet Union of her preference for a unilateral security system based on pacts of alliances rather than for the cumbersome and unwieldy collective security system which had failed to work in practice under the League of Nations.

Second among such developments was the British policy toward the "liberated" countries of Europe. The division of the Balkans into British and Soviet spheres of influence was, for instance, a direct contravention of the spirit of the Dumbarton Oaks scheme. That the British did not believe any too strongly in the maintenance of European peace through the collective action of the anti-Axis nations was even intimated in a recent editorial of the London Economist. In fact, this prominent British journal seemed to take the stand that the conclusion of special political agreements by Britain was justified in view of the uncertainty of American support of the international peace organization.

But the most important indication of the general collapse of the Dumbarton Oaks plan is the apparent absence of any constructive efforts on the part of the "Big Three" to solve their differences over the voting procedure in the executive council of the proposed international security organization. It will be recalled that at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference the United States and Britain advocated the adoption of the majority vote rule while the Soviet Union stood pat on the principle that no decision may be reached by the executive council over any matter affecting a permanent member except by a unanimous vote. The reason for the Soviet stand, of course, was obvious. By proposing the unanimous vote rule, the Soviet Union sought to forestall any attempt by the Anglo-American countries to brand as aggression her demand for a territorial change in the future. On the other hand, the Anglo-American countries favored the majority vote method as they were confident that their satellites in the executive council could be expected to vote with them in any matter affecting their vital interests. This disagreement was fundamental and was not of such a nature as to permit any patchwork solution. It was necessary for one of the parties to give in to the other. Could the absence of any suggestions since the conclusion of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference for the liquidation of this deadlock be an indication that the anti-Axis countries are unable to set up a workable peace structure which would be an improvement over the now defunct League of Nations?

The proposals made in the United States for the formation of an interim council in place of the postwar international peace machinery which was projected under the Dumbarton Oaks plan might lead to such an impression. For instance, Senator Tom Connally has proposed a provisional advisory council composed of the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, France and Chungking to settle international disputes. Moreover, Senator Arthur H. Vandenburg has suggested the immediate conclusion of a treaty by these five anti-Axis countries to keep Japan and Germany permanently disarmed. But what are these proposals but graphic evidences of the general collapse of the Dumbarton Oaks scheme? For if the international peace organization fabricated at Dumbarton Oaks is the key to universal peace as the American propagandists would have the world believe, then why is it necessary to create such temporary, makeshift arrangements to keep the peace in the postwar period? No doubt these proposals by the American legislators have been made to meet the criticisms such as those made by the London Economist and other sections of the British public, but it is at the same time evident that these proposals amount to no more than open admissions of the defects of the Dumbarton Oaks plan and of the inability of the anti-Axis countries to put the plan into immediate practice.

It remains to be seen whether Vandenburg's proposal for a five-Power alliance will be acceptable to the Soviet Union and Britain. Britain may find some benefits from the formation of such an alliance, but what would the Soviet Union gain by future American intervention in European affairs? There is, moreover, another question presented by this new development. What difference is there between the bilateral alliance entered into by the Soviet Union and France which seems so disagreeable to the American people and the five-Power alliance suggested by Vandenburg? Both of them seem to run counter to the spirit of the Dumbarton Oaks plan. Moreover, Vandenburg's five-Power treaty would mean the domination of the world by the big Powers and the terrorization of the smaller countries. It would mean power politics on a grander scale. These developments are, indeed, incriminating proof of the inability of the Anglo-American countries to rear up a permanent structure for an equitable peace.

A Year Ago Today

February 3, 1944

It was disclosed that a great explosion took place at a war industry plant in Portland, Oregon, which is now the center of the shipbuilding industry on the Western Coast of the United States. The fire caused by the explosion spread to the entire waterfront district causing a total damage of $2,500,000, according to New York reports.

* * *

Marshal Erwin Rommel, Commander-in-Chief of the German anti-invasion forces, stated that "final touches have been given to German defenses in the west and that the 'West Wall' is now completely ready for the anti-Axis invasion forces," according to a dispatch received here.

* * *

The French Imperial Conference held by the de Gaullist faction at Brazzaville, French Equatorial Africa, unanimously approved a bill to restrict immigration to the French colony in Africa.

* * *

German military authorities in France decided to postpone the execution of sentences of 916 French citizens, who were found guilty of various crimes, and notified Ambassador Count Fernand de Brinon, French liaison officer with the Reich authorities in Paris, of the decision.

A Willing Spirit

"Will all you crap-shooters please come forward," said the judge in calling a gambling case. Six men walked to the bench. Only five men had been charged. "What are you doing here?" the judge asked the other. "I can shoot craps," said the man.

WITH THE MOBILIZED STUDENTS

Patriotic Spirit Displayed by Japanese Youths

By YASUJI ITOH
(From Contemporary Japan)

II

In one aircraft factory when some requisitioned students were given work, they were at first detailed to finish minor parts. But as they were found conscientious and hardworking, as well as extremely keen on mastering the technical details relative to their assignments, they were soon shifted to the assembling department. There they certainly measured up to the expectations of the management and, moreover, they proved that they could well rival skilled workers in productive efficiency. And what was more, they simply became wedded to their work, the reason being that by exercising their own intelligence they themselves realized the importance of their work and its relation to the prosecution of the war. To explain further, without being told they comprehended to what degree the successful waging of hostilities was dependent on their production endeavors and how much they must contribute to the safeguarding of the integrity and security of their nation, as well as of Greater East Asia. Owing to this self-realization, the mobilized students not only in aircraft plants, but also in heavy industrial concerns and other industries and munitions factories are doing commendable work to gear up the war production structure of Japan on as formidable a footing as possible. They have become fully aware of the value of time to warring Japan; and so they have made it a principle not to see any visitors during working hours, even if they were their relatives urgently wanting to talk with them on some important errands or family matters; equally they have made it their voluntary obligation to work on holidays, and thus they are imparting a powerful stimulus to the reinforcement of the "service to the State" spirit of the general working class.

Various Measures Adopted

In the past, various measures had been employed to raise the production ceiling, among them being the so-called "non-absence contest" between different workshops and the "double production campaign." In addition, prominent persons were invited to give lectures to the workers with a view to bolstering their morale. All these measures were rather ineffective in application, and hence they yielded no marked benefit to the question of bolstering the morale of the workers. At present, their morale has risen to a new height chiefly because it has developed from within in consonance with the gradual unfolding of the war situation, and as such, it has assumed a lasting complexion. Usually, the students are reproached for their inclination to be too critical of anything. But one should not be forgetful of the fact that it is because the students are critical that they can readily grasp the import of a critical situation and, in turn, can quickly and gladly respond to the call of duty with the zeal and devotion of youth. It is gratifying that student labor has now become a full-fledged wartime measure by virtue of the enforcement of the Imperial Ordinance of August 23, 1944, which, has made the previous "voluntary labor service" a past thing. Under the ordinance, not only the mobilization of the students has been made compulsory, but also of the presidents and professors of their institutions. Consequently, student labor has acquired a definite place and a legal status in the nation's war effort. Among the categories of war work assigned to the students should be included agricultural work, in which field, too, the mobilized students are making an appreciable contribution to the augmentation of food production.

The mobilized youths have fully realized that the present war is a life and death struggle between the Japanese and American students. In the air battles that are being fought between the two contending forces in the southwestern and central Pacific, student fliers on either side are playing a great role. Not very long ago, fifteen student workers from among the groups placed under the supervision of the writer were called to the colors as special military cadets. When they were given a hearty send-off, they looked so happy and resolute that one got the impression that sooner or later they were going to charge into death to add their mights to the successful prosecution of hostilities against Britain and America. Perhaps these very students, who have now become airmen, are piloting planes manufactured in the factory they had worked as student workers, and are waiting their chances to blast themselves to death by dashing against American warships or aircraft-carriers. The mobilized students of Japan are fighting the American students on all fronts—at the firing line, in war industries and in other spheres of wartime vocation. They are wielding the hammer, the spade and the rifle inspired by a selfless service to the State, disregarding hardships, privations and limitations. In the recent engagements off the coast of Taiwan and off Philippine waters, the student fliers of Japan have eloquently exemplified to what extent they have cultivated the spirit of selfless service to the State. Indeed, the mobilized students are furnishing Japan with many of her modern heroes on the battlefield, as well as at the work-bench. These youths who have risen to the occasion to perform heroic deeds are just ordinary students. In their student life they did not appear to be interested in revealing their innate qualities; but now that the war situation has turned truculent, they have brought into full display all their inbred qualities to discharge their wartime duty to the nation in an inspired manner. This switch-over of the mobilized students provides an eloquent commentary on the inherent fighting ability of Japan and also on her special aptitude to cope with any and all emergencies.

(End)

ANGLO-AMERICAN DIFFERENCES IN ASIA AND EUROPE

U.S. Eager to Realize Monopolistic Control of Postwar Asia by Undermining British Interests

Editor's Note: The following article by Kumeo Hamada, Extra-Secretary of the Board of Information, appeared recently in the Gaiko Jiho.

II

After each of his conferences with Roosevelt, Churchill comes out with a statement repudiating the accusation that Britain is making light of the East Asiatic front, but for all that there is no impugning the fact that the degree of importance attached by America and Britain to the European and Asiatic fronts respectively differs.

America regards with disfavor Churchill's policy of dividing Europe between Britain and the Soviet Union. Equally antagonistic is America's attitude to the British policies toward Italy and France. Britain wants to disrupt Italy and turn it into her protectorate. She is also contriving to make Sicily independent and annex the former Italian territory in Africa. Toward France, however, she is differently disposed. She wants to treat France as one of the five Big Powers and by helping her to recover her African possessions, Britain intends to check America's advance into Africa and the Soviet Union's advance into the Western Mediterranean.

On the other hand, America rather favors Italy's speedy recovery and is decidedly hostile to the idea of Anglo-French control of Western Europe and the power politics conception of dividing Europe between Britain and the Soviet Union. She seeks to advance the cause of her indirect control of Europe in a new atmosphere of mutual restraints and the balance of power among Britain, the Soviet Union, France, Germany and Italy. The clandestine activities of American commercial firm employes who, clothed in either military or Red Cross uniforms, are finding their way into France are, as the Daily Mail's stricture on the matter indicate, regarded with disgust by the British people.

American Designs on Asia

The Anglo-American differences on the Asiatic policy have already manifested themselves in the Philipps affair. America wants to facilitate her advance into Asia by getting the Atlantic Charter applied to the Asiatic nations. In the past, America lagged behind other Western Powers in the race for rights and interests in Asia and so she is now eager to make up leeway quickly and realize a monopolistic control of postwar Asia by undermining British rights and interests. It is with this end in view that America is lending support to the cause of Indian independence and is instigating anti-British sentiment in Chungking.

Britain is reluctant to treat Chungking as one of the "Big Four" in the anti-Axis camp, refuses to give Chungking any definite promise to retrocede Hongkong and Kowloon, and openly casts a slur on the weakness of the Chungking regime. America, on the contrary, was at one time lavish in her praises of Chungking for its resistance against Japan, prompted, no doubt, by the motive of winning Chungking's good-will in order to promote her end of superceding British rights and interests in China.

In his recent tirade against Britain, Senator Johnson stated that Britain does not like to cooperate with the Chungking army in the operations for the recovery of Burma lest it should strengthen Chungking's voice in the postwar world, for the growth of China into a powerful State will menace the British imperialistic structure of domination over Asia. Britain has, therefore, preferred the risk of Japan's occupation of Burma to the defense of the country with the aid of the Chungking army, he averred. This is another manifestation of Anglo-American disharmony in their Asiatic policies.

America's ambitious design to put Asia under her monopolistic control has naturally called forth frequent voices of protest from British quarters. America's desire to retain possession, even after the war, of the British territories she now holds for the prosecution of the war against Japan, comments the Sunday Dispatch, a London journal, is traceable to the ambition of American financial interests to monopolize the future East Asiatic trade. The Great Britain and the East, a British magazine, says—"America wants to take over, after the war, the rule not only of the South Sea islands under Japan's mandatory rule but of all Pacific islands, but she must remember that Britain, Australia and New Zealand are as deeply interested in the postwar disposition of these islands. It is deeply to be regretted that, arbitrarily concluding that Britain ought to be content with the recovery of the territories she lost during the war, America is trying to shun the arrangement of Anglo-American joint control of the Pacific. Her scheme to convert China and India into the exclusive markets for her big business is much to be deplored."

Increasing Cooperation

Speaking in the House of Commons on September 28, Churchill expatiated on the contribution and sacrifices made by the British forces in the war against Japan, and while stressing Britain's extensive rights and interests in the Pacific, he indicated Britain's increasing cooperation in the Pacific War. This speech was no doubt, meant as Britain's reply to the speeches previously made by Roosevelt and Wallace in which America's ambition of gaining the monopolistic control of the Pacific was aired. By way of counteracting the vigorous onrush of the influences of the two Collossi, America and the Soviet Union, Britain is seriously considering setting up a Western European bloc, and in sponsoring this scheme, she is hoping among other things to preclude America's postwar advance into French, Dutch and Portuguese possessions in the Pacific.

America and Britain are at cross purposes not only in East Asia but in Western Asia and Africa also. America holds that the resources of Western Asia can only be exploited properly by American capital and technique, that the eastward route from Africa and Western Asia to India and China, together with the westward sea and air routes from America to the South Seas and East Asia, give promise of America's future prosperity and that, when they are opened, the way will be complete for America's intervention in and her advance into Asia. This American ambition, it must be noted, however, cannot be realized without overwhelming Britain's vested rights and interests.

America and Britain are closely united for the overthrow of Japan and Germany, but they are at the same time fully awake to a keen rivalry which must arise between them after the war. The view expressed by the Wall Street Journal against the continuance of the supply of arms to Britain after the fall of Germany and the warning uttered by it to provide against the industrial reconversion and a cartoon appearing in the Daily Mail, a British paper, depicting a severe Anglo-American competition for the postwar world market throw much light on the disquieting undercurrent running beneath the present Anglo-American collaboration.

(End)

READERS IN COUNCIL

The Ise Outrage

Sir;

There is a cynical French proverb—"Nothing is sacred to an engineer." It may now be read—"Nothing is sacred to an American."

But "anger" is too respectable an emotion for the people of Nippon to feel. The only worthy feeling is one of profound and ineradicable contempt.

T. BATY

Then Dad Got Mad

Little Dora returned from her first visit to Sunday school.

Father: "What did my little daughter learn this afternoon?"

Little Dora: "That I am child of Satan."

Quotable Quotes

A man who won't lie to a woman has very little consideration for her feelings.

What is more enchanting than the voices of young people—when you can't hear what they say.

No man is lonely while eating spaghetti—it requires so much attention.

AMERICA'S PRESENT AND FUTURE ECONOMY

War Boom Leads to Great Increase in National Income

By GUNNAR MYRDAL

(The following condensed translation of Gunnar Myrdal's book on America's Present and Future Economy is reprinted from the Twentieth Century. A brief summary of this work was recently published in this paper. After Professor Cassel, Professor Myrdal is regarded as Sweden's leading economist and a specialist on American affairs.)

I

When the second World War began, American national income had, after the depression of the thirties, not yet regained the boom level of the twenties. Whatever merits the New Deal may have had in the social field, it failed as an economic policy in attaining its main goal, namely, increased production and employment. At the outbreak of war, the number of unemployed amounted to 10 to 12 million, and this figure does not even include the millions of idle hands in agriculture. The American economic system employed two million people less in 1939 than in 1929, although the population had increased by 10 millions in the intervening 10 years.

Rearmament succeeded where the New Deal had failed: it managed fully to exploit America's tremendous productive capacity. Rearmament, which began after Hitler's world-shaking conquests in the spring and summer of 1940 and went into high gear after the Pearl Harbor disaster in December, 1941, lifted American trade and industry from stagnation to capacity output within an incredibly short time. As early as the second half of 1942, unemployment was reduced to a minimum and, in many fields, even gave way to a perceptible shortage of labor. Millions of unskilled laborers have become skilled during the war; simultaneously, the number of young men called to the colors has mounted from a few hundred thousand to almost 11 million. The number of laborers actually employed in production has risen by seven million. The number of female workers grew from 13 million (including two million unemployed) before the war to 18 million in the autumn of 1943, and the proportion of women in production has gone up to one third of the total labor. Moreover, working hours have been increased from an average of 38 hours in 1939 to 45 hours per week.

20 billion dollars' worth of new plants have been put up, while the total of industrial investments, after deduction of amortizations, amounted to 26 billion dollars before the war. The total value of production in America, which in 1940 had still amounted to less than 100 billion dollars, had reached an annual level of 200 billion dollars by December 1943. Even taking into account the rise in prices, this represents an increase in production of at least 50 per cent.

From 1939 to 1943 the total wages paid by industry had tripled. The nominal industrial wages have risen by an average of 50 per cent, but the increase in the cost of living has canceled about half of this rise. For 1943 the profits of the industrial concerns, after deduction of almost 14 billion dollars of taxes, were calculated at more than eight billion dollars, which represents an absolute record and is twice as much as in 1939. The driving force in this boom is, of course, war production, which at present accounts in value for half of the entire production.

In 1943 the state laid claim to about half of the current national income. But although the government revenue has increased almost tenfold since the thirties, no more than about one third of the war costs could be financed from taxes. The national debt, which amounted to about 40 billions in 1939, will probably amount to 210 billions by July 1, 1944, and it is reckoned that it will have reached some 300 billion dollars by the end of the war. (In comparison, it is interesting to recall that, at the end of the Great War, America's national debt stood at approximately 25 billion dollars).

The Price Problem

On the basis of this economic development, one would have expected a mighty rise in prices. I must admit that, while feeling confidence in the actual carrying out of the gigantic American economic plans, I had anticipated a violent explosion of purchasing power to force up prices. But I was mistaken. In America, prices have risen less than here in Sweden or in England. The cost-of-living index has risen no more than about 25 per cent and the wholesale index by some 40 per cent since 1939. (During the Great War, the wholesale index was already 100 per cent higher at the corresponding stage after the outbreak of war.) One may distrust price indices, but the fact cannot be denied that the price increase has only been a slight one.

On the whole, prices for goods in the early stages of production have gone up more than for finished goods. While the prices for raw materials are more than 60 per cent above the prewar level, finished industrial products have risen in price by no more than about 25 per cent. Agriculture received on an average 100 per cent more for its products, while the Administration, with the aid of subsidies, did not let retail prices for foodstuffs rise more than 45 to 50 per cent.

I must admit that the question as to why no larger rise in prices has taken place is hard to explain, and I must limit myself to mentioning a few factors which have contributed to this state of affairs. First of all, civilian production has, in spite of the tremendous extension of war production, been maintained and in some sectors even increased. While in England actual consumption in 1942 was already 20 per cent below the prewar level, it was in the same year 13 per cent above the prewar level in America. It is true that the production of all goods interfering with war production has been reduced or even stopped. But the production of the remaining consumption goods has risen in comparison to the civilian population, which has been reduced as the result of conscription. Agricultural production, for example, has been increased to such an extent that the consumption of foodstuffs is considerably higher than in 1939. Rationing was necessary only to prevent an excessive increase in consumption as a result of the rising income. Another factor was provided by the speculative hoarding up to Pearl Harbor, which made it possible later on to draw upon large stocks for supplying the demand.

But both these explanations do not suffice, as the gap between this income of the consumers and the supply of goods has become wider and wider. While the sum total of incomes paid after deduction of taxes has been calculated at ¥26 billion dollars for 1943, the expenditure for consumption during the same year amounted to only 88 billion dollars. The "inflationary gap" of 38 billion dollars of unused purchasing power represents almost one third of the total income. The major part of this surplus is saved or, to put it perhaps more correctly, not consumed. It is this immense saving, calculated to total 100 billion dollars for the years 1942, 1943, and 1944, which needs to be explained.

Americans and Prices

It would appear that the consumption habits of people are far more rigid than we economists have always believed. When the Americans found themselves with rising incomes but unable to buy automobiles, refrigerators, washing machines, or radios; when textile goods became not only more expensive but also poorer in quality; and when some of the daily requirements were rationed, people apparently did not have enough imagination and intelligence to use their money for other sensible purposes: they simply kept it. The money was used to pay off mortgages and installment debts or to pay cash for things formerly bought on credit, or it was paid into the bank. Incidentally, a similar trend made itself felt in England.

In conversations with American colleagues I sometimes heard the idea voiced that the Americans might have a somewhat different reaction to the danger of inflation than we Europeans. Economists have generally assumed that when the public fears an increase in prices it seeks safety in goods. People want to buy before prices have risen. In America there has been a lively discussion of the danger of inflation since the beginning of the war. Hence the psychological conditions for a demand and consequently a price increase should have existed. But, so I was told, the average American would on the contrary be more inclined in such a case to keep liquid assets in order to be ready to seize a really good chance for speculative buying in expectation of the approaching rise in prices. In other words, his penchant for taking a chance would work as a price stabilizing factor. I have mentioned this theory to show how obscure the entire question of price trends in America still is.

That any large increase in prices can also be prevented during the further course of the war is to be assumed from the fact that increasing quantities of raw materials can be made available for civilian consumption. In the same measure in which the production of goods for civilian requirements increases, so the "inflationary gap" will diminish.

On the other hand, the effect of domestic political developments on prices cannot yet be predicted. The anti-administration bloc in Congress, consisting since the elections of 1942 of reactionary southern democrats and conservative Republicans, is consciously or unconsciously pursuing an inflationary policy, opposing the Treasury's proposals for new taxes to reduce the "inflationary gap." Congress also opposes the continuation of foodstuff subsidies by which the prices for food are being kept down. The success of this opposition would represent a grave threat to the price-stabilization program. For if the foodstuff subsidies were to be abolished and the cost of living rose, the familiar inflationary spiral with the cost of living and wages exerting a reciprocal effect upon each other might easily be set in motion.

(To Be Continued)

Her Greek God

Ethel: "She treats her husband like a Greek god."

Hugh: "How so?"

Ethel: "Why, she places a burnt offering before him at every meal."

SNOWFALL IN JAPAN

People Welcome Snow As Sign of Good Harvest

By MOCK JOYA

The Tokyo area as well as the entire region of the country facing the Pacific has little snowfall. Around Tokyo it is only three or four times, mostly in the latter part of January and in February that snow falls. Of course in some extraordinary years, snow falls in March but rarely as late as the beginning of April. In the Pacific region, the snowfall is seldom heavy, and around Tokyo a ten inch fall is regarded unusually heavy.

But on the Japan Sea side of the mainland, the snowfall is very heavy. In many districts along the Sea of Japan, the ground is covered for the entire period of winter with six to ten feet of snow. The wind blowing from Siberia gathers moisture in crossing the sea, and as it hits the mountain range ruining through the mainland, the moisture crystallizes in snow and falls. Those districts on the Japan Sea are therefore, called "Yuki-guni" or lands of snow. The entire countryside is so deeply covered in snow that often, only roofs are seen of farm houses, and there have to be built steps leading from the "street" down to the house entrance. In many of the towns in these districts, there are seen tunnels built through the snow to reach shops and houses. The snow fall in this region is said to be the heaviest in the world.

It may be roughly said that as regards snowfall, the mainland of Japan is divided into two distinctly different sections.

Sign of Good Harvest

The people of Japan usually welcome snow, as it is believed to be a sign of a good harvest. This is no superstitious belief. Firstly, heavy snowfalls in mountainous regions assure a good water supply in spring to the rivers and streams that irrigate farmlands. Then snow has another benefit to farms, as it kills harmful insects and their eggs which are laid usually under the covers of dried-up grasses or a few inches under the soil surface. Snow melts gradually when spring comes, and the melted snow slowly penetrates deep in the soil, thus enriching it much better than heavy rain falls that flow off rapidly.

In quite another sense too, the people of the country welcome and love snow. Snow covers everything in a vast blanket of white, hiding everything ugly or unsightly. Thus snow beautifies the entire scenery. The glistening whiteness and purity of snow appeal strongly to the sense of the people who possess a religious respect for spotless whiteness.

Snowfalls, and particularly snow scenes have been the popular subjects of Japanese poems and paintings. In peacetime people of leisure took special trips to distant places to enjoy the snow covered scenes at sea shores or mountains. Many people used to hold snow-viewing parties to indulge in the beauty that nature has created with the covering of snow.

The snow-covered scenery in Japan, particularly on the Pacific side of the land may be more beautiful than in other places, because of the peculiar nature of the snow flakes. Unlike the crisp cold region where snow comes in fine powder, the snow in the Tokyo district, for instance, comes in large flakes. This is due to the content of more moisture in the air that binds together crystal snow and forms it into large flakes. Being large and moisturous, those flakes, as they fall, attach themselves, even on the finest point of leaves and branches of trees, or anything else. Thus, as soon as the snow falls, everything on the ground is immediately covered white, blanketing the whole scenery in pure whiteness. Herein lies another feature of the beauty of the snowfall in this part of the country, which is not seen in other places where the air is drier and the snow comes in fine powder.

Too Much for Doc

Customer: "Can you fix me up with some spectacles that will enable me to read?"

Doctor: "Certainly, sir; sit right down here."

Doc proceeded to try several lenses, each time asking the old gentleman if he could read the words on the chart. Each time the answer was no. Finally, Doc asked: "You are able to read, aren't you, sir?"

Old Gent: "Certainly not; that's what I want the specs for.

The Perfect Tribute

On the eve of the opening of a new play Sarah Bernhardt and her company sat silently in the green-room. Marshal Francois Canrobert, a French hero of the Crimean War, entered and commented on their depression.

"We are on the eve of a great battle," Bernhardt explained. "We are afraid."

"Afraid?" echoed the Marshal.

"Oh, I beg your pardon, Monsieur," said Bernhardt. "I quite forgot."

And summoning an usher she said, "Picard, pleasure bring a dictionary for Monsieur."